

Enclosure of letter from William Basset to Alexander Graham Bell, April 9, 1889

(Copy)

I, Frank L. Radcliffe, of Lynn, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, now temporarily in the City of Thomasville, State of Georgia, do hereby make and publish my last will and testament, intending thereby to dispose of all my worldly estate of which I shall be seized or possessed at the time of my decease.

I devise and bequeath unto my friend, William Basset, of Boston, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and his successors in said trust, duly appointed by competent authority, all my property, real, personal and mixed, wherever situate,

In trust for the following purposes:

First, to pay and use the income thereof and to pay, draw from and use the whole or any part of the principal, in the care, support, maintenance and education of my son, Pierson Radcliffe, and my daughter, Sara Radcliffe, and the survivor, until my said son shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years and my said daughter shall arrive at the age of eighteen years; with full power to my said trustee to sell, convey, invest, re-invest and so manage said property as in his discretion shall seem meet and good for the purpose hereinbefore expressed.

When my said son shall have arrived at the age of twenty-one years and my said daughter shall have arrived at the age of eighteen years, then my trustee or his successor in said trust duly, appointed, shall convey absolutely all the said property, then unconsumed in the execution of said trust, to my said children, in equal shares; and if, before said children both attain said respective ages, one shall die, without lawful issue, him or her

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surviving, then the survivor to be entitled to the whole of such unconsumed estate; and, in the event of the death of either or both of said children, before attaining said ages, leaving lawful issue him or children, before attaining said ages, leaving lawful issue him or her surviving, then such issue shall be entitled to the share to which the parent would have been entitled if living; and, in the event of the death of both of said children before either attains said age, without lawful issue them surviving, then said unconsumed estate to go to my heirs as provided by the laws of descent and distribution of said Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

I desire that, in the event of the death of the said William Basset before his trust under this will shall be fully performed, the trust may be vested in some appropriate trust company, but this is indicated simply as a preference, leaving it to the discretion of the court having jurisdiction of the matter, to appoint such trustee as to it may seem best in the light of such events as may transpire before the necessity shall arise.

I wish to limit the power hereinbefore created as follows, to wit, if this trust shall come to be administered by any person other than the said William Basset, then I desire that the power to draw from the principal of my estate for the care, support, maintenance and education of my said children shall vest in the then trustee only upon the permission of and ratification by the Probate or other court having jurisdiction thereof.

I appoint the said William Basset sole Executor of this my will.

I nominate and appoint, subject to the confirmation of the proper court, the said William Basset to be the guardian of such minor children of mine as may survive me.

I hereby request that said William Basset maybe excused from giving any surety or sureties upon his official bond either as Executor, trustee or guardian of my said children or under this will.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 11 day of March, A.D. 1888.

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Frank L. Radcliffe Signed by the said testator, Frank L. Radcliffe, as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us, who, at his request, in his sight and presence and in the presence of each other, have subscribed our names as attesting witnesses. Mabel G. Bell Alexander Graham Bell Ellen Lee